

I am writing to express my concern regarding the Sinclair Broadcasting's actions to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary just days before the election. This appears to me to be a very clear example of media interference with the democratic process, a violation of the ethics of media and journalistic integrity, and abuse of the public's (albeit naive) expectation that what they hear from "news" media is honest and unbiased. In short, it is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

When large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for their financial interests rather than what the public needs and wants. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter. Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is therefore obligated by law to serve the public interest--please, HOLD THEM ACCOUNTABLE.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. As a regulator myself, I believe the license renewal process needs to truly mean something--not just a rubber stamp. Thank you.